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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/799,456	03/12/2004	Christopher A. Meek	MS149547.2 / MSFTP289USA	7701
27195 7590 04/19/2007 AMIN. TUROCY & CALVIN, LLP 24TH FLOOR, NATIONAL CITY CENTER 1900 EAST NINTH STREET CLEVELAND, OH 44114			EXAMINER TAKELE, MESEKER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2109	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/19/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/799,456

Applicant(s)

MEEK, CHRISTOPHER A..

Examiner

Meseker Takele

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>06/14/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4, 7,8, 11-14,16-18, 23-29, 31-33 and 39-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kudoh et al. (US Patent No.: 5,948,058).

As to claim 1, Kudoh discloses, a method for assisting object organization (example, electronic mail cataloging, see abstract) comprising: in response to a first object being subjected to an action the first object having a controlling attribute updating a first list of a plurality of controlling attribute-specific lists corresponding to the controlling attribute of the first object according to a sort criterion related to the action (example, the allocation of the electronic mails in the first list which is shown on said header information, see column, 5, lines, 1-24 and column 6, 8-11) , each list of the plurality of controlling attribute-specific lists corresponding to a controlling attribute and having a plurality of entries ordered according to the sort criterion and providing alternatives as to how the action can be performed relative to objects having the controlling attribute(example, classifies the sent or received electronic mail and the electronic mail entered by the user , column 29, lines, 56-67,see figure 31); and, in response to the plurality of controlling-attribute specific lists being invoked as to a second object, the second object having a controlling attribute, displaying a second list

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of the plurality of controlling attribute-specific lists corresponding to the controlling attribute of the second object to provide alternatives as to how the action can be performed relative to the second object (example, displays a second list which has all the classification types of the electronic mails as classification items onto said tray information display screen , see column, 6, lines, , 8-19) and (example, the tray display unit 80 invokes, invoked mail object, see column14, lines, 65-66 and column, 15, lines, 1-7).

As to claim 2, Kudoh discloses further initially comprising initializing the plurality of controlling attribute-specific lists (example, Mail attribute information, start email & cataloging, see Figure 2 and Figure 24).

As to claim 3, Kudoh discloses wherein each of the first object and the second object corresponds to an email (example, electronic mail, see column, 6, lines, 9-10).

As to claim 4, Kudoh discloses wherein the controlling attribute of each of the first object and the second object corresponds to a sender of the email (example, sender, see Figure 10 (element 71c) and Figure 3).

As to claim 7, Kudoh discloses wherein the action is movement to a folder (example, the pertinent electronic mail temporarily stored in the mail folder displayed is transferred to a desired mail folder to be appropriately classified, see column 2, lines, 9-14).

As to claim 8, Kudoh discloses wherein the action is setting an object property (see Figure 37).

As to claim 11, Kudoh discloses wherein the method is performed by execution of a computer program by a processor from a computer-readable medium (example, program-controlled CPU, see column, 12 lines, 17-18).

As to claim 12, Kudoh discloses a method for dynamically maintaining and displaying attribute-specific lists (example, displays the first list, see column, 5 line, 4 and Figure 33) comprising: initializing at least one attribute-specific list (see Figure 37); updating the at least one attribute-specific list based on an action performed on at least one attribute-specific object (example, editing, see, column, 4, lines, 66-67, column 5, line 1-2 and figure 33 (element 3307)); and displaying the at least one attribute-specific list comprising the at least one attribute-specific object (see figure 36).

As to claims 13 and 28, Kudoh discloses the at least one attribute-specific list comprising folders (example, folder see column 2, lines, 9-14).

As to claims 14 and 29, Kudoh discloses the at least one attribute-specific list initialized to be empty (see figure 4 (element #31)).

As to claim 16, Kudoh discloses the at least one attribute-specific list initialized based on a controlling attribute (example, see Figure 35 and 36).

As to claim 17, Kudoh discloses the controlling attribute based on at least the creator of the attribute-specific object (example, Creating a mail, see Figure 3).

As to claim 18, Kudoh discloses the controlling attribute based on at least the recipient on the attribute-specific object (example, receiving, see Figure 4).

As to claim 23, Kudoh discloses further comprising appending additional attribute-specific objects to an existing attribute-specific list (example, the first list in

which a single electronic mail is allocated to a single line onto said header information display screen, and inserts header information, see column, 6, lines, 1-6).

As to claim 24, Kudoh discloses the action corresponds to movement of at least one attribute-specific object between attribute-specific lists (example, the pertinent electronic mail temporarily stored in the mail folder displayed is transferred to a desired mail folder to be appropriately classified, see column 2, lines, 9-14).

As to claims 25 and 31, Kudoh discloses the at least one attribute-specific object corresponds to email (example, electronic mail, see abstract).

As to claim 26, Kudoh discloses the action corresponds to setting a property on at least one attribute-specific object (example, modify by user, see figure 33).

As to claim 27, Kudoh discloses a system to facilitate dynamic object organization comprising: an initializing component to initialize a plurality of objects subject to one or more controlling attribute (example, Mail attribute information, start email & cataloging, see Figure 2 and Figure 24); an updating component to update the plurality of objects based on a function performed on an object subject to the one or more controlling attribute (example, editing, see, column, 4, lines, 66-67, column 5, line 1-2 and figure 33 (element 3307)); and a display component to display at least one of the plurality of objects (see figure 36).

As to claim 32, Kudoh discloses the one or more controlling attribute based on at least the creator of the object (example, creating a mail, see figure 3).

As to claim 33, Kudoh discloses the one or more controlling attribute based on at least the recipient of the object (example, receiving, see figure 4).

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As to claim 39, Kudoh discloses further comprising an appending component to append one or more additional objects to the plurality of objects (example, the first list in which a single electronic mail is allocated to a single line onto said header information display screen, and inserts header information, see column, 6, lines, 1-6).

As to claim 40, Kudoh discloses the appending component utilizing the one or more controlling attribute to append the one or more additional objects to the plurality of objects (example, the first list in which a single electronic mail is allocated to a single line onto said header information display screen, and inserts header information, see column, 6, lines, 1-6).

As to claim 41, Kudoh discloses the function being movement of at least one object between the pluralities of objects (example, the pertinent electronic mail temporarily stored in the mail folder displayed is transferred to a desired mail folder to be appropriately classified, see column 2, lines, 9-14).

As to claim 42, Kudoh discloses the function being setting at least one property on the object (example, modify by user, see figure 33).

As to claim 43, Kudoh discloses to aid dynamic object organization comprising: means for initializing one or more object-specific lists based on at least one or more controlling attribute (example, Mail attribute information, start email & cataloging, see Figure 2 and Figure 24); the one or more object-specific lists orderable based on one or more ordering criteria (example, conducts shaping to arrange such a line in multiple numbers in the horizontal direction in order to show in a style so that a plurality of classification categories can be seen simultaneously, see column, 12, lines, , 50-60);

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means for updating the one or more object-specific lists based on an action performed on one or more objects subject to the at least one or more controlling attribute (example, editing, see, column, 4, lines, 66-67, column 5, line 1-2 and figure 33 (element 3307)); means for ordering the one or more object-specific lists based on the one or more ordering criteria (example, the first list in which a single electronic mail is allocated to a single line onto said header information display screen, and inserts header information, see column, 6, lines, , 1-6); means for appending one or more objects utilizing the at least one or more controlling attribute and (example, the first list in which a single electronic mail is allocated to a single line onto said header information display screen, and inserts header information, see column, 6, lines, , 1-6) means for displaying the one or more object-specific lists (see figure 36).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5, 6, 9, 10, 15, 19-22, 30 and 34 - 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kudoh et al. (US Patent No.: 5,948,058) in view of Morikawa (US Patent No.: 5,613,108).

As to claim 5, Kudoh does not disclose wherein each of the first object and the second object corresponds to a file. Morikawa from the same field of endeavor disclose the first object and the second object corresponds to a file (example, file, see column, 6

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lines, 38-49). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Kudoh electronic mail cataloging and retrieving system at the time of the invention is made with the features of file taught by Morikawa, because combining these two references will help the data files arrangement in the mail. (see Morikawa column, 6 lines, and 32-37).

As to claim 6, Morikawa discloses wherein the controlling attribute of each of the first object and the second object corresponds to a creator of the file (example, user to create attachment files, see column 1, lines, 57-65).

As to claim 9, Morikawa discloses wherein the sort criterion is how recent the action has been performed (example, receives a mail from a host processor stores a mail in a receiving folder, column, 1 lines, 41-56).

As to claims 10, 22 and 38, Morikawa disclose wherein the sort criterion is how frequent the action has been performed (see figure 3).

As to claims 15 and 30, Morikawa discloses the at least one attribute-specific object comprising types of computer files (example, file, see column, 6 lines, 38-49).

As to claim 19, Morikawa discloses further comprising sorting the attribute-specific list based on at least one sort criterion (example sorting, see column 5, lines, 11-20).

As to claims 20 and 36, Kudoh disclose a level of priority (example, normal, see figure 29). However Kudoh does not disclose the sort criterion corresponds to a level of priority. Morikawa from the same field of endeavor disclose sort criterion (example sorting, see column 5, lines, 11-20). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

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in the art to have modify Kudoh electronic mail cataloging and retrieving system at the time of the invention is made with the features of sort criterion taught by Morikawa, because combining these two references will help files can be easily accessed by the applications software and therefore the operational efficiency of the system increases.

As to claim 21, Morikawa discloses, the sort criterion corresponds to a time at which the attribute-specific object was subject to the action (Example, sort, see column, 2, lines 1-20).

As to claim 34, Morikawa discloses further comprising a sorting component (example, sorting, see column 5, lines, 11-20).

As to claim 35, Morikawa discloses the sorting component utilizing one or more sort criteria (example sorting, see column 5, lines, 11-20).

As to claim 37 Morikawa discloses, the one or more sort criteria based at least on the time at which the object was subject to the function (example a user may search for all files and/or documents that were inserted in his folder after a given date, see paragraph [0033]).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kephart et al. (US Patent No.: 7,051,277) is cited to teach Automated assistant for organizing electronic documents.

Kosco (US Pub No.: 2004/0181581) is cited to teach Authentication method for preventing delivery of junk electronic mail.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Meseker Takele whose telephone number is (571) 270-1653. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30AM- 5:00PM est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xiao Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2100. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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